

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04800 110936Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 /039 W
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R 110535Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1548
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4800

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

REF: STATE 104826

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THAT IF POSSIBLE THE OPTION FOR THE FELLOWS TO VIST PAKISTAN BE KEPT OPEN FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, WHEN THE US-PAK RELATIONSHIP MAY HAVE BECOME CLEARER, PERHAPS IN THE WAKE OF A HIGH LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.
2. IF BY EARLY JULY PAK-US RELATIONS ARE GENUINELY ON THE MEND, THE FELLOWS SHOULD FIND IT HELPFUL TO THEIR PERCEPTIONS OF THE SUBCONTINENT TO HAVE AN EXPOSURE TO THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT COUNTRY IN THE REGION. WERE THEY TO COME, WE WOULD CERTAINLY SEEK TO HAVE THEM MEET KEY GOP OFFICIALS. IN THE PAST, THE PAKS HAVE BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE IN ARTICULATING THEIR VIEWS ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS TO SIMILAR VISITING GROUPS.
3. FOR THE PAK GOVERNMENT, THE TIMING OF THE VISIT COULD ALSO CONCEIVABLY PROVE VERY HELPFUL. GIVEN THE PRESIGIOUS NATURE OF THE GROUP, THE PAKS COULD WELL
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 04800 110936Z

SEE THE VISIT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO LAY ON RED-CARPET TREATMENT SO AS TO SIGNAL WASHINGTON THEIR INTENT TO CONTINUE GOOD RELATIONS, AND IN A LONGER TIME FRAME, TO CREATE FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS ABOUT PAKISTAN ON A GROUP OF LIKELY FUTURE AMERICAN OPINION MOLDERS.

4. WE HOPE THESE POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WILL BE GIVEN

SOME WEIGHT. IF A DECISION ON FINALIZING THE GROUP'S
ITINERARY CAN BE POSTPONED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, WE HOPE
THIS WILL BE DONE AND THAT AT THE END OF THAT TIME WE
WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AGAIN ON THE
PROSPECTS FOR THE VISIT.
CONSTABLE

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Message Attributes

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